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C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 008143

SIPDIS

FOR S/WCI, L/PM, AND NEA/ELA

E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/23/2015

TAGS: [PTER](#) [PHUM](#) [EG](#) [KWRC](#)

SUBJECT: STATUS OF REPATRIATED NLEC SAMI EL-LAITHY

Classified by ECPO Minister Counselor Michael Corbin for
reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

[¶](#)1. (C) Guantanamo detainee Sami El-Laithy, returned by the U.S. to Egypt on October 1 after being designated "No Longer an Enemy Combatant," was met by Egyptian authorities at the airport and taken to hospital. Within 24 hours, following a set of medical tests, El-Laithy was released and returned to reside with his family in the Nile Delta province of Sharqiya. Although the GOE is not likely to prosecute him and does not consider him a security risk, he remains under surveillance.

[¶](#)2. (SBU) El-Laithy has made numerous media appearances since his return. Appearing on October 4 on two of Egypt's most-watched evening talk shows, El-Laithy alleged that he was subjected to repeated physical and mental torture while detained at Guantanamo. El-Laithy, a paraplegic, even claimed that his paralysis was caused by beatings administered by his USG captors. El-Laithy told Reuters in an interview published October 21 that he had been well treated since his return to Egypt.

[¶](#)3. (SBU) The Embassy will advise the Department of any changes in El-Laithy's status.

RICCIARDONE